

2017 Asia Think Tank Summit on “Think Tanks, Public Policy and Governance”

22-23 November 2017, Singapore

Jointly organised by
Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS);
Think Tank and Civil Societies Program, The Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania, &
Asian Development Bank Institute;

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Dress Code: Business Attire

Wednesday, 22 November 2017	
Venue: : Lobby, Oei Tiong Ham Building, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore	
1330 – 1450	<p>Arrival of Participants of 2017 Asia Think Tank Summit</p> <p>Registration</p> <p>Lunch Sponsored by KAS Political Dialogue Asia</p>
	<p>Think Tank Summit: “Why Think Tanks Are More Important Now Than Ever Before in Asia?”</p> <p>Rapid technological development and adoption in Asia, coupled with an increasingly competitive world environment have contributed to making the marketplace of ideas a highly contentious place. In an era defined by data overload, curated information from credible institutions become highly sought-after. This is the time when think tanks in Asia are taking on a more important role than ever before – to help policy makers make sense of our fast changing and unpredictable world amidst seemingly endless and conflicting flows of information. The 2016 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report defines think tanks as “public-policy research analysis and engagement organizations that generate policy-oriented research, analysis, and advice on domestic and international issues, thereby enabling policymakers and the public to make informed decisions about public policy.” This session will discuss the rising number and prominence of think tanks in Asia and their influence on policy-makers in Asia and beyond.</p>
1500 – 1505	<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associate Professor Tan Khee Giap Co-Director, ACI-LKYSPP, NUS Dr James G. McGann Senior Lecturer, Lauder Institute and Director Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania
1505 – 1520	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <p>Professor Kishore Mahbubani Dean, LKYSPP, NUS</p>
1520 – 1620	<p>Think Tank President’s Panel: Making a Difference to Policy Makers and the Public (7-9 mins each, 20 mins discussion)</p> <p>A Panel of 4 Presidents from across Asia will open the Summit by sharing how think tanks add value and why they are more important than ever before. They will also be asked to discuss what the major policy challenges facing the region.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Huiyao Wang, Founder & President, Center for China and Globalization, People’s Republic of China Mr Simon Tay, Chairman, Singapore Institute of International Affairs, Republic of Singapore Dr Ooi Kee Beng, Executive Director, Penang Institute, Malaysia Mr Shafqat Kakakhel (TBC), Chairman, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan Dr Kamalinne Pinitpuvadol, Executive Director, International Institute for Trade and Development, Thailand <p>Discussion</p> <p>Moderator Mr Christian Echle, Director, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Political Dialogue Asia</p>
1620 – 1720	<p>Peace and Prosperity or Conflict or Chaos: The Role of Think Tanks in Shaping the Future of Asia (7-9 mins each, 20 mins discussion)</p> <p>A panel of economic and international affairs think tanks will explore the rise of Asia and the regional and global conflicts arising from historical and territorial issues persist and are joined by newly emerging threats including energy security, cyberspace and terrorism. The session aims to identify key issues confronting the region and examine the possibilities for regional cooperation and collaboration.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Yasutaka Miyazawa (TBC), Director, Research Coordination, The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA)

Legend:

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	<p>2. Dr Huifang Tian, Deputy Director of Global Governance Department and Senior Research Fellow, Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, People's Republic of China</p> <p>3. Dr Francoise Nicolas, Senior Research Fellow and Director, Center for Asian Studies, French Institute for International Affairs</p> <p>4. Dr Tae Soo Kang, Senior Research Fellow, Korea Institute of International Economic Policy</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Moderator Mr Nicholas Fang, Executive Director, Singapore Institute for International Affairs</p>
1720 – 1750	Round Table Discussion
1750 – 1800	Closing Remarks Dr James G. McGann Senior Lecturer, Lauder Institute and Director Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania
1830 – 2100	<p><i>*Sponsored by McKinsey Global Institute*</i></p> <p>Welcome Dinner Talk: “Conditions for Debt Sustainability: Both Private Debt and Public Debt in Asia”</p> <p>Distinguished Dinner Speaker Professor Naoyuki Yoshino Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute</p> <p>Question & Answer Session</p> <p>Moderator Dr Jeongmin Seong Senior Fellow, McKinsey Global Institute</p> <p>Dinner</p>
End of Programme for 22 November 2017	

Thursday, 23 November 2017	
Venue: Grand Ballroom, Level 4, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore	
0830 – 0900	Conference Registration
0900 – 0910	Welcome Remarks Professor Bernard Tan Vice Provost (Undergraduate Education and Student Life), NUS
0910 – 0920	Welcome Remarks Ms Fatouma Toure Ibrahima Acting Director and Operations Adviser, World Bank Infrastructure and Urban Development Hub, The World Bank Group
0920 – 0940	Conference Opening Remarks by Guest of Honour Mdm Halimah Yacob President of the Republic of Singapore
0940 – 0945	<p>Guest of Honour to launch of six books by ACI-LKYSPP, NUS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “2017 Annual Competitiveness Analysis and Impact of Exchange Rates on Foreign Direct Investment Inflows to ASEAN Economies” • “2017 Impact Estimation of Exchange Rate on Foreign Direct Investment Inflows and Annual Update of Competitiveness Analysis for 34 Greater China Economies” • “2017 Annual Competitiveness Analysis and Impact of Exchange Rates on Foreign Direct Investment Inflows to Sub-National Economies of India” • “2017 Annual Competitiveness Analysis and Impact of Exchange Rates on Foreign Direct Investment Inflows to Sub-National Economies of Indonesia” • “2017 Annual Indices for Expatriates and Ordinary Residents on Cost of Living, Wages and Purchasing Power for World’s Major Cities” • “Urban Composite Development Index for 17 Shandong Cities: Ranking and Simulation Analysis based on China’s Five Development Concepts”
0945 – 1030	Coffee/Tea Break

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1030 – 1050	Keynote Address 1: “Leverage Government Balance Sheet to Mobilise Private Financing for Infrastructure Development” Dr Cledan Mandri-Perrott Head of Infrastructure Finance and PPPs, Infrastructure, PPPs & Guarantees, The World Bank Group
1050 – 1100	Question & Answer Session Moderator: Associate Professor Tan Khee Giap Co-Director, ACI-LKYSPP, NUS
1100 – 1120	Keynote Address 2: “Disruptive Labor Market Trends and Opportunities” Ms Anu Madgavkar Partner, McKinsey Global Institute
1120 – 1130	Question & Answer Session Moderator Dr Mulya Amri Research Fellow & Deputy Director (Research), ACI-LKYSPP, NUS
1130 – 1150	Keynote Address 3: “Think Tanks and Economic Competitiveness” Dr James G. McGann Senior Lecturer, Lauder Institute and Director Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania
1150 – 1200	Question & Answer Session Moderator Dr Sasidaran Gopalan Research Fellow & Deputy Director (Administration), ACI-LKYSPP, NUS
1200 – 1400	*Sponsored by Korea Development Institute & Korea Institute for International Economic Policy* Conference Luncheon Talk: “Risks and Return of Infrastructure Investment and Financing in Asia” Professor Terry Marsh Chief Executive Officer, Quantal International and Emeritus Professor of Finance, University of California, Berkeley
1230 – 1250	Question & Answer Session
1250 – 1300	Moderator Associate Professor Tan Khee Giap Co-Director, ACI-LKYSPP, NUS
1300 – 1400	Lunch

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<p>1400 – 1545</p>	<p>Breakout Session A1: “Developing Human Capital”</p> <p>Human capital accumulation is a prime driver of the growth of labor productivity and household income, which in turn provides the basis for poverty reduction and inclusive growth in Asia. Despite its importance, research on the determinants and optimal levels of such investments are still scant. Financial literacy is a particular kind of human capital which has been receiving increasing attention. As economies develop, households increase their holdings of real and financial assets, but also face an increasing diversity of financial products and need to plan for longer periods of retirement. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) also need to increase their capacity for financial planning and record keeping to improve their ability to invest and receive financing. Many countries still in the early stages of developing national strategies for financial education. This session will focus on how policymakers can promote human capital development in Asia.</p> <p>Moderator Mr Huiyao Wang (TBC) Founder & President, Center for China and Globalization, People's Republic of China</p> <p>Lead Discussant Dr Peter Morgan Senior Consulting Economist & Co-Chair, Research Department, Asian Development Bank Institute</p> <p>Discussants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Professor Philippe Gugler Director, Center for Competitiveness, University of Fribourg; Chairman, European International Business Academy & Editor-in-Chief, Competitiveness Review 2. Dr. Kamalinne Pinitpuvadol Executive Director, International Institute for Trade and Development 3. Mr Jitendra GC Director and Founder, Sajha Foundation <p>Question & Answer Session</p>	<p>Breakout Session A2: “How to Promote Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) in Asian Region”</p> <p>Despite the rising significance of Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to the growth of Asian economies, SMEs still suffer from significant constraints pertaining to access to finance, information and new technologies. SMEs do not have the resources to hire skilled professionals and they also lack a good training system for their employees. Start-up businesses are even more difficult to get financial support from banks. They tend to borrow money from local money lenders and are charged very high rates of interest. This session will discuss about the current state of difficulties faced by SMEs and the way forward to solve those issues. Big data analysis of SMEs will make possible for banks and money lenders to evaluate SMEs. Hometown investment trust funds can support venture businesses in the region. This session will address possible solutions for the SMEs in the Asian region.</p> <p>Moderator Dr Sasidaran Gopalan Research Fellow & Deputy Director (Administration), ACI-LKYSPP, NUS</p> <p>Lead Discussant Dr Naoko Nemoto Financial Economist, Asian Development Bank Institute</p> <p>Discussants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Young Kwon Cho Adjunct Professor, Business School, Chung-Ang University, South Korea 2. Dr Shin-Hui Chen Assistant Research Fellow, Chung-Hua Institution of Economic Research, Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China 3. Dr Luo Hairong Research Fellow, Institute of World Economy, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, People's Republic of China <p>Question & Answer Session</p>	<p>1445 – 1530</p> <p>Breakout Session A5: “Harnessing Technology to Improve Research Capacity, Revenue and Digital Economy”</p> <p>Moderator Mr Syed Munir Khasru Chairman, The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance, Bangladesh</p> <p>Lead Discussant Mr Kaoru Suzuki Assistant Director, Japan International Cooperation Agency</p> <p>Discussants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Melissa Conley Tyler National Executive Director, Australia Institute of International Affairs, Australia 2. Ms Katharina Naumann Program Manager, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia 3. Dr Nicola Missaglia Research Fellow, Italian Institute for International Political Studies <p>Question & Answer Session</p> <hr/> <p>1530 – 1615</p> <p>Breakout Session A6: “Water Security”</p> <p><i>To be hosted by Institute of Water Policy (IWP), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore</i></p> <p>Moderator Dr Olivia Jensen Senior Research Fellow, IWP-LKYSPP, NUS</p> <p>Discussants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Phearak Svay Senior Advisor for WASH and Partnerships, Asia P3 Hub 2. Dr Leong Ching Co-Director and Assistant Professor, IWP-LKYSPP, NUS 3. Dr Ishani Mukherjee Practice Lead (Sustainability), Global Counsel <p>Question & Answer Session</p>
<p>1545 – 1615</p>	<p>Coffee/Tea Break</p>	<p>1615 – 1630: Coffee/Tea Break</p>	
<p>1615 – 1800</p>	<p>Breakout Session A3: “How to Finance Infrastructure Investments in Asia”</p> <p>The Developing Asian economies are characterized by a notable</p>	<p>Breakout Session A4: “Fighting against Climate Change”</p> <p>The 2015 Paris Accord represents a significant step forward in the global fight against climate change. The</p>	<p>1630 – 1715</p> <p>Breakout Session A7: “China’s Economic Transformation after the 19th CPC National Congress and It’s Impacts on Global Economy”</p>

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	<p>infrastructure deficit, especially when it comes to hard infrastructure. Inadequate infrastructure has constrained both the farmers as well as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) from having meaningful and efficient access to markets in the region. With Public-Private-Partnerships (PPP) yielding mixed results, low rates of return on infrastructure investments have remained one of the critical reasons why private sector support to finance infrastructure investments have not taken off in a significant way. Considering the potential spillover effects to the region that could arise from increased infrastructure investments, this session will focus on policy strategies to not only revitalize PPP models but also search for a more robust and sustainable financing strategy to fund infrastructure investments in the region.</p> <p>Moderator Mr Jungwook Kim Director and Vice President Department of Competition Policy, Korea Development Institute</p> <p>Lead Discussant Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa Chairman and Chief Executive, Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia</p> <p>Discussants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Wang Huitong Research Fellow, Institute for Finance and Economics Research, Central University of Finance and Economics, People's Republic of China 2. Dr Cledan Mandri-Perrott Head of Infrastructure Finance and PPPs, Infrastructure, PPPs & Guarantees, The World Bank Group <p>Question & Answer Session</p>	<p>commitments made by the signatories now need to be translated into concrete action. Due to its expected strong economic growth, Asia is predicted to become the largest emitter of CO2 by 2035. The region therefore needs to think urgently how to achieve economic growth that is environmentally sustainable. Achieving green growth requires improvements in energy efficiency, the promotion of low carbon technologies and well as an elimination of carbon-intensive practices. This transition will be costly and new financing mechanisms are needed. One new and potentially transformative idea on how to finance mitigation efforts is through local finance schemes. In this light, this session will focus on the various financing needs as well as possible sources to achieve sustainable growth in Asia.</p> <p>Moderator Dr Mulya Amri Research Fellow & Deputy Director (Research), ACI-LKYSPP, NUS</p> <p>Lead Discussant Dr Sun Jiting Professor, Shandong Marine Economic and Culture Research Institute, Shandong Academy of Social Sciences, People's Republic of China</p> <p>Discussants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Nguyen Manh Hai Director, Public Service Policy Department, Central Institute for Economic Management, Socialist Republic of Vietnam 2. Dr James G. McGann Senior Lecturer, Lauder Institute and Director Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania 3. Dr Kieth Rethy Chhem Cambodian Development Resource Institute, Cambodia <p>Question & Answer Session</p>	<p><i>To be co-hosted by Singapore National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (SINCPEC) and East Asian Institute (EAI), National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore</i></p> <p>Moderator Dr Zhao Litao Senior Research Fellow, EAI, NUS</p> <p>Lead Discussant Dr Lance L.P. Gore Senior Research Fellow, EAI, NUS</p> <p>Discussants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Professor Tan Kong Yam Co-Director, ACI-LKYSPP, NUS 2. Dr Tong Yueting Senior Research Fellow, EAI, NUS 3. Dr Shan Wei Research Fellow, EAI, NUS <p>Question & Answer Session</p> <hr/> <p>1715 – 1800</p> <p>Breakout Session A8: Is Anyone Listening? Strategic Communications and Marketing for Think Tanks</p> <p>Moderator Dr Constantino Xavier Fellow, Carnegie India</p> <p>Lead Discussant Ms Cynthia Wu Executive Vice President, Shinkong Life Insurance Co Ltd & Executive Director, Shinkong Life Foundation, Taiwan, Republic of China</p> <p>Discussants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Cathy Yiqian Gui Head, Asia External Communications, McKinsey Global Institute 2. Ms Angela Mo Senior Manager, Policy Advocacy & Engagement, Our Hong Kong Foundation 3. Ms Lydia Ruddy Director for Communication, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) <p>Question & Answer Session</p>
1800 – 1830	<p>Cocktail Reception</p> <p><i>*Sponsored by Asian Development Bank Institute*</i></p>		
1830 – 2100	<p>Ministerial Forum: “Promoting Sustainable Economic Growth, Environmental and Social Harmony in Asia”</p>		
1900 – 2000	<p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Bambang Brodjonegoro Minister, National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS), Republic of Indonesia • Mr Lawrence Wong Minister for National Development and Second Minister for Finance, Republic of Singapore 		
2000 – 2030	<p>Question & Answer Session</p>		

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2030 – 2100	<p>Moderator: Associate Professor Tan Khee Giap Co-Director, ACI-LKYSPP, NUS</p> <p>Dinner</p>
End of Programme for 23 November 2017	

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